

We thank Ms. Davis for her service to the Committee and our country and wish her the very best as she continues her outstanding professional journey.

IN RECOGNITION OF CODY  
SPLITT'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. MIKE GALLAGHER**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2019*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II veteran and retired attorney Cody Splitt as she celebrates her 100th birthday.

Esther "Cody" Splitt was born in Wausau, Wisconsin in 1919. From a young age, Cody knew she wanted to serve her country and make an impact in her community. At the height of WWII, she joined the U.S. Navy and served in the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service. While serving, she worked on naval intelligence and was the head of personnel for WAVES.

After leaving the Navy in 1945, Cody pursued her dream of becoming a lawyer. Through the G.I. Bill, she attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she was one of five women in her class. She graduated in just three years with a bachelor's and law degree.

Cody met and married her husband, Harley, while attending UW-Madison. After her graduation, the couple moved to Appleton where Cody opened the second woman-owned law firm in Outagamie County. At age 66, she was elected president of the Outagamie County Bar Association, the first woman to hold that position. Cody retired from the legal profession at age 75 and joined the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors. She won subsequent bids for reelection and served on the Legislative/Audit Committee until she resigned at the age of 82. In addition, Cody served on the Outagamie County Health and Human Services Board.

Her contributions to the community are vast and continue to be honored. In 2013, Cody was honored as a Woman of Distinction by the Mid-Day Women's Alliance. She was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Wisconsin Law Journal in 2015. In 2016, the Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce inducted Cody into the Business Hall of Fame for her success and influence as a business leader.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to rise in recognition of Cody Splitt's 100th birthday. I would like to thank Cody for her service in the U.S. Navy and continued commitment to improving the Fox Valley community. May she have a happy and healthy birthday.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM J.  
NOONAN ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. DINA TITUS**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2019*

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate my dear friend, William J. Noonan, on his well-deserved retirement. After a long

and successful career in government and the gaming industry, the last 18 years of which he spent at Boyd Gaming, Bill leaves Las Vegas better than he found it. I am sad to see him depart his official position but know he will stay involved in our community.

After graduating from Missouri State and subsequently receiving his Master's in Public Administration from the University of Kansas, Bill spent years managing cities across this country and guiding them through both tough and exciting economic periods. Although gaming was not widely legalized throughout the country when Bill first landed in Las Vegas in the 1990s, he sensed the tides turning and worked with city leaders to prepare for its expansion.

It was important to Bill to foster strong relationships between the gaming industry and the communities in which companies operated, and he went above and beyond his professional duties to accomplish this. With his strategic thinking and amiable personality, Bill made Boyd Gaming a better community partner and Las Vegas a stronger and more prosperous community through his service as Vice Chairman and Executive Board member of the Nevada Resort Association.

I had the pleasure of hosting Bill as my guest to the State of the Union one year. It is difficult to find someone who enjoys politics as much as Bill. But Bill has been so much more than just an observer: Bill has run a casino; dined with U.S. presidents; guided economic development and philanthropy in Las Vegas as Chair of the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce and through the Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance; served on the Board of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority; and helped unify our community after the horrific events of 1 October.

He is well respected in the gaming industry intentionally and has been recognized numerous times for his leadership, including as Gaming Professional of the Year. He has truly left his mark on Las Vegas, and we are all indebted to him for it. I wish Bill and his wife, Sylvia, all the best in their future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING MR. HENRY  
RODRIGUEZ MARTINEZ, SR.

**HON. MARC A. VEASEY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2019*

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Mr. Henry Rodriguez Martinez, Sr. of Dallas. Mr. Martinez was a father, veteran and a local civil rights leader that was committed to bettering our DFW communities throughout his life of public service.

Mr. Martinez was son of West Dallas, and spent his life making sure that communities of color had a seat at the table. He was an early pioneer in building Latino political power in our community and was one of the loudest advocates in the fight to guarantee better representation for all people of color on the Dallas City council. I know he would be proud to see the diversity we have on our city council today.

Mr. Martinez also worked to ensure the safety of West Dallas and the greater DFW-area. Martinez was an active member of the Eagle Ford/Ledbetter Community of West Dallas throughout his life and as the president of

the Ledbetter Neighborhood Association helped improve local transit across the community and improve the quality of life for those that lived there.

My thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Martinez's family and friends. West Dallas is losing a fighter and advocate for their community. His spirit and accomplishments are irreplaceable, but we will always strive to emulate them.

RECOGNIZING THE 113TH ANNIVERSARY AND 95TH GENERAL CONVENTION OF ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.

**HON. STEVEN HORSFORD**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2019*

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 113th Anniversary and 95th General Convention of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. (ΑΦΑ) is the first African-American, intercollegiate Greek-lettered fraternity. It was initially a literary and social studies club organized in the 1905–1906 school year at Cornell University but later evolved into a fraternity with a founding date of December 4, 1906. Its aims are "Manly Deeds, Scholarship, and Love For All Mankind," and its motto is "First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All."

Chapters were chartered at Howard University and Virginia Union University in 1907. The fraternity now has over 290,000 members and has been open to men of all races since 1945. Currently, there are more than 730 active chapters in the Americas, Africa, Europe, the Caribbean, and Asia. It is the largest predominantly African-American fraternity and one of the ten largest collegiate fraternities in the nation.

Alpha Phi Alpha is a social organization with a service organization mission and has provided leadership and service during the Great Depression, both World Wars, and the Civil Rights Movement. The fraternity has addressed social issues such as apartheid, AIDS, urban housing, and other economic, cultural, and political issues of interest to people of color.

National programs and initiatives of the fraternity include A Voteless People Is a Hopeless People, My Brother's Keeper, Go To High School, Go To College, Project Alpha, and the World Policy Council. It also conducts philanthropic programming initiatives with the March of Dimes, Head Start, the Boy Scouts of America, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. Currently the fraternity is involved in a vigorous civic engagement initiative aimed at voter protection and a full census count for people of color.

Members of this fraternity include many historical civil rights leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr., NAACP founder W. E. B. Du Bois. Other world-renowned members include political activist Cornel West, musicians Duke Ellington and Lionel Richie, NBA legend Walt Frazier, Jamaican Prime Minister Norman Manley, Olympic gold medalist Jesse Owens, Justice Thurgood Marshall, Investor and founder of Vista Equity Partners Robert F. Smith, United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young, Academy Award winning director Barry

Jenkins, six time MTV Video Music Awards winning director and choreographer Frank Gatson Jr., the hero of the Nashville Waffle House shooting, James Shaw Jr., and ESPN sportscasters Stuart Scott, Stan Verrett and Jay Harris.

Alpha Phi Alpha asserts that through its community outreach initiatives, the fraternity supplies voice and vision to the struggle of African Americans, the African diaspora, and the countless unique problems that affect Black men. The fraternity provides for charitable endeavors through its Education and Building Foundations, providing academic scholarships and shelter to underprivileged families. The fraternity combines its efforts in conjunction with other philanthropic organizations such as Head Start, Boy Scouts of America, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, Project Alpha with the March of Dimes, NAACP, Habitat for Humanity, and many Fortune 500 companies.

In Las Vegas, since 1964 and 1993 respectively, the Theta Pi Lambda and Sigma Psi Chapters hold high the light of Alpha. We boast in our ranks Brothers Chief State Supreme Court Justice Michael Douglas; Chief District Judge Addelior D Guy, III; Dr. James McMillan, the 1st Black Dentist in Nevada; Rev. Dr. Marion Bennet; Dr. Bob Bailey, the 1st Black TV Personality in Nevada; Ricki Y. Barlow, Las Vegas City Councilman; NV Assemblyman Steven Brooks; and Cedric Crear, Las Vegas City Councilman. Over the past 5 years they have reinvested over \$140,000 in scholarships and boast a 100 percent college acceptance rate, through the Alpha Men and Divas of Tomorrow Mentoring program.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2019*

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, I attempted to vote in favor of H.R. 3239. Unfortunately, due to a mechanical error during yesterday's vote on this bill, my vote was not recorded.

As a legislator, a medical professional, and an advocate of humane treatment for all people, I am proud to support this bill because it will raise the minimum standards for medical treatment of migrants and asylum seekers seeking refuge at our southwestern border.

I went to the border to view the circumstances on the ground and what I saw were inhumane conditions. Men, women, and children should never be placed in cages.

In 2018 alone, there were nine migrant deaths that occurred after an encounter with Customs and Border Protection—including seven-year-old Jakelin, who died of dehydration and shock; and eight-year-old Felipe, who died from influenza while in the custody of Customs and Border Protection.

In the first half of 2019, there have been ten deaths, including a two-year-old who died from

pneumonia and a 16-year-old who died from influenza.

All these deaths could have been prevented. The tragic deaths of these children do not go unrecognized and are an unfortunate and disgraceful symptom of the inhumane treatment occurring at our southwest border.

H.R. 3239, the Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in Customs and Border Protection Custody Act, introduced by Congressman RAUL RUIZ, raises the bar on humanitarian standards at our southern border.

Migrant children require protection from harm, but we already know this from our own personal experiences. Our children and grandchildren need pediatric health assessments and appropriate medical attention. So do migrant children.

Your child's pediatrician needs the equipment and medications for assessment, triage and treatment. So do the health care providers for migrant children. Migrant children escaping dire situations deserve the same care for their hygiene and health.

You wouldn't allow your children or grandchildren's safety, nutrition, health and hygiene needs to go unmet because you know that they can lead to illness and death—like the deaths of the children who died after being detained at the border.

We must do better. We must dig the bar out of the ground for the humane and dignified treatment of migrants and raise it up to, at minimum, international levels, so that no more deaths occur on our watch. I commend and support my colleague, Congressman RUIZ, for introduction and passage of this bill in the House of Representatives.

#### THE SAFEGUARDING STUDENT VETERANS ACT

#### HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2019*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise to discuss the Safeguarding Student Veterans Act.

In recent years, we have seen a wave of abrupt closures of colleges in Maryland and around the country, particularly those operating for profit. When a college closes, students are the ones that bear the burden and are left asking "what's next?"

Students who have spent thousands of dollars can just be left with credits they are often not able to transfer. This leaves entire families placed in financial limbo due to circumstances of which the student was unaware.

In the last five years, close to a half million students were impacted by closures of around 1,200 campuses. They were robbed of their education and a chance to better themselves.

When these schools close, student veterans using the GI Bill benefits they have earned through their courageous service are dis-

proportionately impacted. Furthermore, many for-profit schools have been found to target veterans for enrollment with deceptive and predatory practices.

Between 2014 and 2018, the closure of for-profit colleges impacted almost 22,000 students using the GI Bill.

In 2016, when ITT Technical Institute closed its doors, about 7,000 of its 40,000 students were on the GI Bill.

Last year, Education Corporation of America suddenly ceased operations. Nearly 4,000 of its 18,000 students were using the GI Bill.

In addition to harming veterans, these closings also leave taxpayers on the hook because the Department of Veterans Affairs has to double the amount of funding it provides for GI Bill beneficiaries when a school closes and their credits do not transfer.

After serving our nation, veterans using their GI Bill benefits should have faith that they will be able to complete their degrees without their schools suddenly closing.

We must do better for our veterans.

Our veterans have served our country, and we must honor the sacrifices they made as they transition back into civilian life and seek to better themselves through education.

That is why I am introducing bipartisan legislation to protect these student veterans. This week I am introducing the Safeguarding Student Veterans Act with Congressman Ted Yoho of Florida. Our bill will increase coordination between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Education, require the Department of Veterans Affairs to better understand and track the risks that certain schools pose to veterans, and empower veterans when deciding on which schools to attend.

Under the bill, when the Department of Education determines that any school, including for-profits, are facing significant financial and compliance issues, the Department of Education would need to notify and coordinate with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Department of Veterans Affairs would then need to undertake a risk analysis for these schools. The analysis would include information the Department of Veterans Affairs receives from the Department of Education as well as additional factors such as the volume of student complaints, rates of Federal student loan defaults by veterans, and veteran completion rates.

The Department of Veterans Affairs would then notify veterans of the results of the risk analysis and include the findings in the Department of Veterans Affairs' online GI Bill Comparison Tool.

I am proud that our bill has wide-ranging support, including from the American Legion, Veterans Education Success, Vietnam Veterans of America, and Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the Safeguarding Student Veterans Act. We must do better to protect our student veterans.